

[22 August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

(c) whether there is any proposal sent by the State Government of Tamil Nadu in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) During the last three years five projects for development of Kanyakumari have been sanctioned. No utilisation certificate has been received from the State Government for the amount released so far. Implementation of the project is the responsibility of the State Government.

(c) A project for improvement of infrastructure at Kanyakumari has been prioritised for central financial assistance of Rs. 20.00 lakhs for the current financial year.

### **Pilgrim Centres in Himachal Pradesh**

3236. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(b) the number of Pilgrim Centres which have been identified for promotion of tourism in Himachal Pradesh with details of their names and funds allocated for development of each Pilgrim Centre;

(c) whether Government have received any proposal from the State Government to include Durga Hatkoti temple in Shimla Distt. of Himachal Pradesh for developing it as a tourist centre; and

(d) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Development of places of tourist importance including pilgrim centres is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, in May 1992 a Committee on Development of Pilgrim Tourism identified two pilgrim centres in the State of Himachal Pradesh namely Ponta Sahib and Jwalamukhi for tourism infrastructure development. Based on the Project Proposals submitted by the State Government of Himachal Pradesh, the Central Department of Tourism extended financial assistance to three tourism

projects amounting to Rs. 67.00 Lakhs in these two places. The details of the projects are as follows:—

SI. No.	Name of the Project	Amount (Rs. in Lakhs)
1.	Tourist facilities at Jawalamukhi	12.70
2.	Yatri Niwas at Jawalamukhi	27.19
3.	Tourist Lodge at Ponta Sahib	27.11
TOTAL :		67.00

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise. However, Central Government has provided financial assistance for construction of Tourist Lodge at Hatkoti amounting to Rs. 17.00 Lakhs during 1987-88.

#### **Filling-up of ADG post in ASI**

3237. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the earlier DG, Archaeological Survey of India used to be professional archaeologists, and not an IAS officer;

(b) if so, whether they were replaced by IAS officers and since when and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that the post of Addl. DG, ASI, is vacant for many years;

(d) if so, since when and reasons therefor; and

(e) by when it is proposed to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(a) Yes, Sir. Since 10.9.1996. The UPSC could not select a suitable candidate as per the extant Recruitment Rules.

(b) to (e) The post of Additional Director General (Archaeology)